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December 9th the following were elected officers to serve during the coming year :—

<i>Director,</i>	.	.	.	.	George H. Horn, M.D.
<i>Vice-Director,</i>	.	.	.	.	Charles S. Welles,
<i>Recorder,</i>	.	.	.	.	Henry Skinner, M.D.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	.	.	.	.	Ezra T. Cresson.
<i>Secretary,</i>	.	.	.	.	William J. Fox.
<i>Conservator,</i>	.	.	.	.	Henry Skinner, M.D.
<i>Publication Committee,</i>	.	.	.	.	{ Charles W. Johnson, James H. Ridings.
					HENRY SKINNER, <i>Recorder.</i>

REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL SECTION.

The Botanical Section respectfully reports that the general progress noted in former annual reports still continues, notwithstanding the severe loss sustained by the death last April of its most zealous and untiring member, John H. Redfield, who had been the able Conservator of the Academy's Herbarium since the formation of the Section. His death renders the recommendation of former years, that a permanent Conservator should be employed, still more pressing. It is believed that a fund of \$20,000 would yield enough to make a fair start in this direction. Mr. Redfield perceived this necessity, and generously willed that his scientific books and collections should be sold to form the nucleus of such a fund. To aid in this laudable object some of the members of the Section organized a "Redfield Memorial Herbarium Fund," to which a little less than \$1,000 have been subscribed, hoping to add to it the coming year. It is earnestly hoped that the Academy will lend a vigorous aid in the establishment of this fund. Until the whole amount is subscribed, the interest will go to the purchase of additions to the collection. It has been estimated that the work of verifying, arranging and fastening down specimens, now going on by the voluntary work of the members of the Section, could not be completed under four or five years, even though there were no new additions. The dire necessity for a regularly employed official is therefore obvious.

The Section is clear of debt and has a balance in the treasury. Meetings are held regularly on the second Tuesday in each month,

except during the three summer months, and matters of wide botanical interest have been regularly discussed. Mr. Stewardson Brown has been serving very efficiently as Conservator pending the annual election. His report showing the condition of the Herbarium, is herewith appended.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows :—

<i>Director,</i>	.	.	.	.	Thomas Meehan.
<i>Vice-Director,</i>	.	.	.	.	Charles E. Smith.
<i>Recorder,</i>	.	.	.	.	Charles Schäffer, M.D.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	.	.	.	.	Stewardson Brown.
<i>Corresponding Secretary,</i>	.	.	.	.	Joseph D. Crawford.
<i>Conservator,</i>	.	.	.	.	Stewardson Brown.

THOMAS MEEHAN,
Director.

The Conservator of the Botanical Section reports as follows :—

In presenting this report for the year your Conservator wishes to congratulate the Section on the general good condition of the Herbarium at the present time.

The permanent mounting of the specimens in the general Herbarium, commenced some years ago, has been carried steadily forward during the present year, largely through the untiring efforts of the Director of the Section, Mr. Thomas Meehan; and we can now report the work done as far as Umbelliferæ.

The additions received during the year have been 1,683 species, of which 332 are lower Cryptogams, and 1,351 Phanerogams and Ferns; of the latter, 442 species are from North America, 426 from tropical America, 253 from Asia, and 226 from Australia and Polynesia.

Notable among these are the following collections :—

245 species of Newfoundland plants received from the Howard Herbarium, Cambridge; 111 species of Northern California plants received from Prof. E. L. Greene; 425 species of Mexican plants collected in 1894, by Prof. C. G. Pringle, and purchased through the liberality of some of the members of the Section; 253 species of Asia Minor plants collected by Prof. Bornmuller, and purchased for the Section, and 126 species from the Azores Islands, collected in 1893 by Mr. C. S. Brown, and purchased for the Section.

Of these collections, some 350 species are new to the Herbarium.

It will be seen from the foregoing that a large proportion of the additions during the past year have been acquired through purchase, entailing a considerable expenditure on the part of a few of the members, owing to the lack of funds available for such purposes. While such outlay will undoubtedly be necessary to some extent in the future, yet it is hoped that by a proper system of exchanging, which we expect to effect shortly, much additional material can be acquired. The Section now has in hand a considerable quantity of material which can be readily used for this purpose as soon as adequate space is furnished for its arrangement, which time we hope is not far distant.

The attention of the Section was called to the crowded condition of the present cases, in the report of the Conservator for 1894, and it is hoped before the report for 1896 is made this much-needed room for expansion will have been provided, and the present cases fitted with doors of the best dust-proof construction.

Respectfully submitted,

STEWARTSON BROWN,

Conservator, pro tem.

REPORT OF THE MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SECTION.

Eight meetings of the Section have been held during the past year with an average attendance of about eight members. Papers have been read by Messrs. Goldsmith, Rand and Woolman.

The additions to the cabinet, except to the William S. Vaux collection, have not been large, but there seems to be a greater interest awakened during the last portion of the year, which it is hoped may continue.

An excursion was made by the Section on May 25th, which seemed to be very satisfactory to those attending it.

The Director would urge, if means can be found for the purpose, the increase of the local collection, which, he believes, could be made of value. The chief expense of this would be in cases, as it is probable that nearly all the specimens needed would be presented;